

1 **ABSTRACT**

2 Data is synchronized among multiple web servers, each of which is coupled
3 to a common data server. Each web server retrieves a scheduled activation time
4 from the data server. If the current time is prior to the scheduled activation time,
5 then each web server retrieves updated data from the data server into a staging
6 cache in the web server. At the scheduled activation time, each web server copies
7 data from its staging cache to an active cache in the web server. If a new web
8 server is added or an existing web server is initialized, then data is copied from an
9 active cache in the data server to an active cache in the new or initialized web
10 server. The multiple web servers may be arranged to form a web farm.

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